

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

It shreds away the notion of objectivity and creates an inclusive viewership that stops questioning sources. Television is already biased enough.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

But this becomes more difficult with corporations like Sinclair creating a homogenous groupthink that pushes a national priority and leaves local news to tacky feature stories. Also, bullying affiliates into political sway just before the election is malicious and should be considered when Sinclair's license renewal comes up.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.